9-12, and 14; and adds new Claims 19-26. Upon amendment, the application will have one independent claim (amended Claim 1) and a total of twenty claims (Claims 1-7, 9-12, 14, and 19-26). Therefore, no fees for excess claims are due.

Support for amending Claims 1 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed versions of Claims 1, 8, and 13. Support for amending Claims 2-7, 9-12, and 14 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed versions of Claims 2-7, 9-12, and 14, respectively. Support for new Claim 19 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed version of Claim 12. Support for new Claim 20 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed version of Claim 1 and lines 28-29 on page 2 of the specification. Support for new Claims 21 and 22 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed version of Claim 3. Support for new Claims 23-26 can be found in, inter alia, the originally filed version of Claim 9.

While the Applicants traverse the outstanding restriction requirement, the Applicants nevertheless provisionally elect Invention III for prosecution on the merits; and the Applicants provisionally elect aluminum cocatalysts. If necessary, the Applicants also provisionally elect catalysts in which M is selected from group 4 metals. Upon amendment, all of the claims will read on the elected invention.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 121, the United States Patent and Trademark Office is authorized, but is not required to restrict an application to one invention if two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one application. In view of the expenses that would be imposed upon the Applicants by multiple patent applications and multiple patents, it is believed that restriction requirements should be issued only when absolutely necessary; and the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of

the outstanding restriction requirement.

The traversal of the restriction requirement and the remarks regarding the traversal are being submitted without prejudice. Neither the traversal of the restriction requirement nor the remarks regarding the traversal shall be interpreted as disputing the Examiner's suggestion that Inventions I, II, III, and IV are patentably distinct.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Allowance of the application at an early date is solicited.

This response cancels Claims 8, 13, and 15-18; amends Claims 1-7, 9-12, and 14; and adds new Claims 19-26. The cancellations, amendments, and additions described in the preceding sentence were done to claim to the scope of the invention that the Applicants are entitled to claim and were not done to overcome the prior art. The cancellations, amendments, and additions described in the first sentence of this paragraph shall not be considered necessary to overcome the prior art.

The Applicants intend to submit a new Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) by July 1, 1999. Before the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider on the merits all of the documents listed in the new IDS.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-0415 and, in particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this Response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 C.F.R 1.136 (A) requesting an extension of time of the number of

months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account No. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C., 20231 on

June 28, 1999
(Date of Deposit)

JOHN PALMER
(Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

6-28-99
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Respectfully submitted,

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